

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE CROSS

—STRONGER TOGETHER WEEK 8—

I. FELLOWSHIP: Not Just _____ and _____

Definitions, Translations, and Example Usage of “*Koinonia*” (κοινωνία) from the Standard Greek Lexicon (BDAG, 552-53)

1. Close _____ involving mutual _____ and _____: “association,” “communion,” “fellowship,” “close relationship”
 - A favorite expression in Greek for _____ as the most intimate we have (e.g. Isoc., *Nicocles* 3.40)
 - 2 Cor 6:14-18; Acts 2:42; Gal 2:9
2. Attitude of good will that manifests an interest in a _____: “generosity,” “fellow-feeling,” “altruism”
 - 2 Cor 9:13; Heb 13:16
3. An Abstract Usage for Something Concrete: “sign of fellowship,” “proof of brotherly unity,” even “_____,” “_____.”
 - Rom 15:26
4. “Participation,” “sharing.”
 - Phil 3:10; 2 Cor 8:4

II. OUR FELLOWSHIP WITH THE _____

1. “_____” with the _____ (1 John 1:3, 6)
2. “_____” with the _____ (1 Cor 1:9; 10:16; Phil 3:10)
3. “Close _____” with the _____ (2 Cor 13:13; Phil 2:1)

III. OUR FELLOWSHIP WITH _____

Philippians 2:25-30

²⁵ I have thought it necessary to send to you **Epaphroditus** my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. ²⁷ Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. ²⁹ So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, ³⁰ for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

Colossians 1:5-8

Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, ⁶ which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, ⁷ just as you learned it from **Epaphras** our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf ⁸ and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

Philemon 1:23-25

²³ **Epaphras**, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, ²⁴ and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

Colossians 4:7-18

⁷ Tychicus will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. ⁸ I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts, ⁹ and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place here.

¹⁰ Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him), ¹¹ and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. ¹² **Epaphras**, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. ¹³ For I bear him witness that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. ¹⁴ Luke the beloved physician greets you, as does Demas. ¹⁵ Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. ¹⁶ And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea. ¹⁷ And say to Archippus, “See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord.”

¹⁸ I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Live in _____ by _____ Christ and
Live in _____ People by _____ Christ.